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RURAL DISTRICT OF SEISDON



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1954



BILSTON & SEDGLEY:
JOHN PRICE & SONS, PRINTERS

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SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (December, 1954)

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. G. CROSS

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR G. A. JEFFRIES

COUNCILLORS W. BOLLAND

J. W. BROADBENT

H. C. EDWARDS

A. E. HUGHES

J. B. S. HUGHES

C. KEMP

F. H. LANE

MISS E. E. LAURIE

W. H. LEWIS

N. H. A. PARSONS

R. B. WILLIAMS

G. F. WOODWARD

H. E. WEAVER

W. WINSPER

G. W. MUNDAY, J.P. (Chairman of the Council)

MRS. M. J. FLETCHER, J.P. (Vice-Chairman of
the Council)

SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Name

Qualifications

Duties

Medical Officer of Health:

ALAN R. KENNEDY B.Sc.,
M.B., Ch.B.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
D.P.H. (1) Medical Officer of Health
(Seisdon R.D.C.) for
4/11ths of the week;
(2) Assistant County M.O.
(M. & C.W.), School
M.O., and general duties,
(Staffordshire County
Council) for 7/11ths of
the week.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

G. V. R. LEE M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Senior Sanitary Inspector;
Cert. Meat and Duties as detailed in Sanitary
Food Inspector Officers Order; Shops Acts;
Petroleum Acts; Cleansing.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

H. F. ROBINSON C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector;
M.R.I.P.H.H., Duties as detailed in Sanitary Officers Order;
Cert. Meat and Shops Acts; Petroleum Acts;
Food Inspector Cleansing.

Pupil Sanitary Inspector:

G. J. HAYWARD (Resigned on 3rd August, 1954)

Administrative Assistant:

D. NALLY

Clerk:

J. BRASSINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1954

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Seisdon Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1954.

This Report is drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health in their Circular 1/54, of the 12th January, 1954. The Report follows the same general lines as the previous year with special paragraphs in the appropriate section, on the problems which have particularly concerned your Public Health Committee in the year. Comparative tables on statistics are given in the related Sections of the Report.

The Report deals with Public Health subjects in **Sections** as follows:—

- A** Statistics affecting the district.
- B** General Provision of Health Services in the district.
- C** Sanitary accommodation of the district.
- D** Housing in the district.
- E** Inspection and supervision of food.
- F** Prevalence of, and control over, infectious diseases.
- G** Tuberculosis.
- H** Other matters,

and it concludes with the Report of your Senior Sanitary Inspector on those matters which fall within his sphere of activities.

Some important **Statistics** are here presented.

The Statistics have been abstracted from the Registrar General Census of 1951 and they illustrate the immense development which has taken place in the Seisdon R.D. since 1931 (the date of the previous Census). With further calculation, based on the actual number of houses, the figures emphasize the progress of the last three or four years. I quote the following:—

1. Increase in structurally separate dwellings between 1931 and 1951—an 81% increase in dwellings.

2. Population

1921	11,500	
1931	13,850	Census
1951	22,322	Census
June, 1954	24,370	Registrar General
Sept., 1954		
March, 1955		

22,314 Rating Officer's estimate
26,169 " " "
26,891 " " "
27,669 " " "

The population had doubled its 1931 figure by March, 1955.

3. Seisdon Rural District had the 2nd highest position in Staffordshire Rural Districts for houses possessing piped water supply.

Seisdon Rural District had the highest position in Staffordshire Rural Districts for houses possessing fixed baths.

Seisdon Rural District had the highest position in Staffordshire Rural Districts for houses possessing water closets.

4. 25% of its male population came into Social Classes I and II (a relatively high percentage).

5. Households entirely without W.Cs. 20%

 ,, ,, ,, Fixed baths 29% 4th best figure in the County.

Households (equivalent to Families)

sharing a dwelling	5.2%	336
		Households
Structurally separate dwellings ..	6,540	
,, ,, ,, (occupied)	6,340	
Number of private households ..	6,510	
Average number of persons per room	0.69	
% Population living at over 2 per room	3.2%	
% Population living at over $1\frac{1}{2}$ per room	8.9%	
Number of Households entirely without Piped Water	470	Households
Number of Households entirely without Cooking Stoves	243	Households
Number of Households entirely without Kitchen Sink	284	Households
Number of Households entirely without Water Closet	1,277	Households
Number of Households entirely without Fixed Bath	1,884	Households

During the year 1954 **Special Reports** on the following subjects have been presented to the Public Health Committee and the Rural District Council.

1. Investigation of Fluorine deposit values on grass at varying situations in Wombourn, adjacent to an enamel factory.
2. Population changes in Seisdon Rural District between the two Census years 1931 and 1951.
3. Model Byelaws on Slaughterhouses.
4. The Royal San. Inst. Congress at Scarborough, April, 1954 (attended by the M.O.H.)

In reference to **Water Supplies**, I record that many outlying cottages are deteriorating into **Category 5 Houses** (*i.e.*, fit for demolition) largely because there is no prospect of mains water being brought to them. If a farmer spends say £300 on bringing mains water to a row of rural cottages and if no other "improvements" are made he may not qualify for an "Improvement Grant" of the Housing Act. Some relaxation of the regulation in this direction would be an advantage to outlying farms and cottages, both in relation to farming and in relation to personal cleanliness of the families.

I take this opportunity of thanking various persons for their co-operation, advice and support during the past year and record particular appreciation of

Councillor G. W. Munday, J.P.	Chairman of the Council
Councillor Mrs. M. J. Fletcher, J.P.	Vice-Chairman of the Council
Councillor J. G. Cross	Chairman of the Public Health Committee
Councillor G. A. Jeffries	Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee
Mr. L. E. Tarplee	Clerk and Chief Financial Officer to the Rural District Council
Mr. F. Bagley	Engineer and Surveyor to the Rural District Council
Mr. W. Watkins	Collector of Revenues to the Rural District Council
Mr. R. A. Robertson	Engineer-in-Chief, South Staffs. Water Works Coy.
Mr. A. F. B. Sidwick	Borough Engineer Surveyor and Water Engineer, Bilston Borough Waterworks
Mr. B. L. McMillan	Water Engineer and Manager, Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking
Mr. A. E. Fordham	General Manager and Secretary, Birmingham Water Dept.
Dr. F. B. MacKenzie	(Formerly M.O.H. Seisdon Rural District Council).
Dr. G. Ramage	County M.O.H. Staffordshire
Dr. Phease	Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford
Mr. Houlbrooke	County Analyst—County of Staffordshire
Mr. Cox	S.W. Area Welfare Officer—Staffs.
Dr. J. H. Donnelly	Area Medical Officer—Brierley Hill
Dr. A. MacDonald	Chest Physician Dudley
Dr. Aspin	Chest Physician Wolverhampton
The General Medical Practitioners of the Rural District	
The Staff of the Seisdon Rural District Public Health Dept.	

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

ALAN R. KENNEDY.

Section A

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1954

Area: 41,900 acres, *i.e.*, 65 square miles.

Population: 24,370 Registrar General's estimated mid-year population.

Population: 26,169 estimated by Mr. Watkins (Rating Officer) as at mid 1954.

Number of Inhabited Houses: 7906.

Number of Council Houses: 1,710.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £565.

Rateable Value: £137,084.

General Rate: 19/2d.

VITAL STATISTICS

					England & Wales
Live Births:		Male	Female	Total	
Total ..	..	211	202	413	
Legitimate ..	..	205	196	401	
Illegitimate ..	..	6	6	12	
Birth Rate per 1,000 population		..	..	16.9	
Comparability Factor ..	..	..	..	1.03	
Standardised Birth Rate ..	..	..	..	17.4	15.2
Still Births:		Male	Female	Total	England & Wales
Total ..	..	8	2	10	
Legitimate ..	..	8	2	10	
Illegitimate ..	..	—	—	—
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Births				24.2	24.0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:		Male	Female	Total	
Total ..	..	3	4	7	
Legitimate ..	..	2	4	6	
Illegitimate ..	..	1	0	1	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:		Seisdon R.D.C.	Average for Staffs. C.C.	England & Wales	
		1953	1954	1952	1953
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births (7) ..	..	19.2	16.9	31	32
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births (6)	20.0	14.9	31	31	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births (1) ..	Nil	83	37	49	
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:		Male	Female	Total	England & Wales
Total ..	..	1	3	4	
Legitimate ..	..	1	3	4	
Illegitimate ..	..	—	—	—
Per 1,000 related Live Births		..	..	9.68	17.7
				(1954)	
				Seisdon	

		1954 Seisdon	1954 England & Wales	1953
Deaths (at all ages):				
Total: 217. Males: 107. Females: 110				
Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	8.9	11.3	11.4
Comparability Factor	.. .. ..	1.06		
Standardised Death Rate	.. .. ..	9.4		
Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child-birth	.. .. .. ..	1		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	.. ..	38		
Deaths from Carcinoma (Cancer) of the Lung				
Males	.. .. .. .. ..	6		
Females	.. .. .. .. ..	4		
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	.. ..	Nil		
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	Nil		
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under 2 years old)	.. .. .. ..	Nil		
Deaths from Tuberculosis of the Lungs	..	1		
Deaths from other Tuberculosis Diseases	..	Nil		
Tuberculosis Death Rate (Respiratory):				
per million of population	.. ..	40	160	180
Tuberculosis Death Rate (Non-Respiratory TB.): per million of population	..	Nil	19	22

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1954

			M.	F.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	1	-
Tuberculosis, other	..	..	-	-
Syphilitic disease	..	..	-	-
Diphtheria	..	..	-	-
Whooping Cough	..	..	-	-
Meningococcal infections	..	..	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	-	-
Measles	..	..	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	..	..	6	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	10	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	1	-
Diabetes	..	..	-	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	17	20
Coronary disease, angina	..	..	15	6
Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	-	7
Other heart disease	..	..	15	13
Other circulatory disease	..	..	5	2
Influenza	..	..	-	-
Pneumonia	..	..	4	3
Bronchitis	..	..	5	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	-	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	1	2
Hyperplasis of prostate	..	..	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	-	1
Congenital malformations	..	..	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	14	18
Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	4	-
All other accidents	..	..	1	5
Suicide	..	..	1	-
Homicide and operations of war	..	..	-	1
			<hr/> 107	<hr/> 110

BIRTH RATES

Year	SEISDON		England and Wales
	No. of Births	Birth Rate	Birth Rate
1945	326	16.6	16.1
1946	367	18.2	19.1
1947	400	19.2	20.5
1948	358	16.4	17.9
1949	349	15.9	16.7
1950	339	15.5	15.8
1951	343	15.4	15.5
1952	335	14.9	15.3
1953	364	15.4	15.5
1954	413	17.4	15.2

DEATH RATES

Year	SEISDON			England and Wales
	No. of Deaths	Death Rate	Standardised Death Rate	Death Rate
1944	212	10.7		11.6
1945	206	10.5		11.4
1946	205	10.2		11.5
1947	213	10.2		12.0
1948	196	9.0		10.8
1949	212	10.4		11.7
1950	202	9.0		11.6
1951	254	11.4		12.5
1952	200	9.6		11.3
1953	226	9.6	10.3	11.4
1954	217	8.9	9.4	11.3

LOCALITY-DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(excluding Tuberculosis) notified in 1954

Disease	TOTAL	Bobbington					Codsall			Envile			Himley			Kinver		Lower Penn		Pattingham		Patshull		Seisdon and Trysull		Swindon		Wombourn		Wrottesley	
Scarlet Fever	19	-	1	-	1	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	8		
Whooping Cough ..	120	3	4	-	5	2	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	44	53		
Measles	12	-	1	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	5		
Acute Pneumonia	21	-	2	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	5		
Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-		
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-		
Food Poisoning	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-		
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-		

AGE-GROUPS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (excluding Tuberculosis) notified in 1954

Disease	Total all Ages	At all ages		Un- der 1 year	1 to 2 yrs.	2 to 3 yrs.	3 to 4 yrs.	4 to 5 yrs.	5 to 10 yrs.	10 to 15 yrs.	15 to 25 yrs.	25 to 45 yrs.	45 to 65 yrs.	65 to 75 yrs.	75 to 85 yrs.	85 and over
		M	F													
Scarlet Fever	..	19	6	13	3	1	1	-	1	11	2	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	..	120	58	62	12	27	25	16	18	20	-	1	1	-	-	-
Measles	12	6	6	4	3	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	..	21	11	10	-	-	-	1	3	2	-	1	5	6	-	3
Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic		1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
Food Poisoning	3	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1954

Nett Deaths from causes stated at various ages under one year of age:

Cause of Death	Under 1 week				Total under one month				Total Deaths under one year			
	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks		1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months		9 to 12 months			
Prematurity	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Myeloid Leukaemia ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Broncho-Pneumonia ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

Year	SEISDON			England and Wales Rate per 1,000 Births
	Births	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births	
1945	326	20	61.3	46
1946	367	11	30.0	43
1947	400	9	22.5	41
1948	358	11	32.5	34
1949	349	13	37.6	32
1950	339	7	20.6	29
1951	343	9	26.2	30
1952	335	4	11.9	28
1953	364	7	19.2	26.8
1954	413	7	16.9	25.5

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

The Medical Officer of Health holds office in virtue of a joint appointment by Staffordshire County Council and Seisdon Rural District Council, apportionment of his time and services to the Rural District being based on the population.

The Sanitary Inspectors are both full-time officers, and are fully qualified Meat and Food Inspectors. The Chief Sanitary Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent.

In accordance with Part III of the National Health Service Act, Health Services are provided by the Local Health Authority, namely the Staffordshire County Council, the organisation and administration being in the hands of the County Medical Officer of Health. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the "Area Health Authority" and the "Area Medical Officer". In the Seisdon Rural District Council, the No. 7 Area Health Authority at Brierley Hill is immediately responsible for and administers:—

- (a) Health Centres.
- (b) Care of Mothers and Young Children.
- (c) Midwifery.
- (d) Health Visiting.
- (e) Home Nursing.
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (g) Ambulance Service.
- (h) Prevention of illness, care and after care.
- (i) Domestic Help.

The Health Visitors, three in number, are as stated, under the immediate direction of the Area Health Authority.

Hospitals:

As regards the General Hospital and Specialist Services, the administration is vested in the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The Hospitals and Out-patient Departments available, and easily accessible to your District are those of Stourbridge, Wordsley, Dudley, Wolverhampton and Birmingham. An Orthopaedic Convalescent Hospital, being part of Wolverhampton Royal Hospital, is situated at Patshull within the Rural District.

Infectious Diseases:

The Infectious Diseases Hospitals are under the control of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board. Cases go to Moxley Hospital, or to Stallings Lane Hospital, Kingswinford, or to the Borough Hospital, Wolverhampton.

Ambulance Service:

This service is provided by the Staffordshire County Council from stations at Kingswinford and Tettenhall.

Tuberculosis:

Dispensaries are situated at Wolverhampton and Dudley and various Sanatoria are available. Prestwood, Kinver and Himley Sanatoria are situated within the Rural District.

Maternity Cases are provided for by:

- (a) New Cross Hospital
- (b) Wordsley Hospital
- (c) Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home
- (d) Birmingham Hospitals.

Laboratory Facilities:

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Stafford. Speedy delivery to the Laboratory of any pathological specimens is ensured by motorcycle transport over the 22 miles from Seisdon to Stafford. Efforts are made to concentrate deliveries on one or two days a week.

Clinics:

School Clinics	Orthopaedic Clinics
Defective Vision Clinics	Dental Clinics
Infant Welfare Clinics	Ante Natal Clinics
Immunisation Clinics	Speech Therapy Clinics

are provided by the Staffs. C.C. at main centres of population in or very near the District, *e.g.*, at Codsall, Wombourn, Kinver, Bobbington, Kingswinford and Brierley Hill.

Committees

The SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL Committees which are concerned with matters of Public Health are:

- (1) The Public Health Committee;
- (2) The Housing Committee;
- (3) The Plans Inspection Committee.

Section C (I)

There is estimated to exist in the Rural District—

436 Cesspools, being emptied periodically
and 802 Pail Closets, being emptied weekly.

With development and connection to the Rural District's Main Sewerage Scheme, during the next three years, it is estimated there will then remain a residual unconnected number of

298 Cesspools
and 633 Pail Closets.

I am indebted to **Mr. F. Bagley**, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., the Council's Surveyor, for the following report on Sewerage Disposal Scheme, on Housing, and on Water:—

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the year 1954/55 schemes of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal have been completed at Pattingahm, Himley and Smestow and the sewer extension at Duck Lane and Wolverhampton Road, Codsall has also been completed. In addition approval has been received from the Ministry for the portion of Bobbington Sewerage scheme which was originally withheld and also for sewer extensions at Radford Lane, Lower Penn and Wolverhampton Road, Seisdon. Orders to commence have been sent to the Contractors.

A Public Inquiry has been held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government into the proposed extension of Codsall Sewage Works, necessitated by the Wolverhampton Overspill building now taking place in Codsall and Wrottesley, and approval in outline received. Detailed plans are now being prepared by the Council's Engineering Consultants. A scheme is also in course of preparation for the extension of Wombourn Sewage Works, necessitated by the Overspill building taking place in Wombourn.

Complete schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal are at present being prepared for the Village of Enville and Swindon.

HOUSING

Council houses completed during 1954 total 565 of which 347 were for Wolverhampton Overspill. In addition 315 houses were built privately making a total of 880 for the year. Since the commencement of the scheme for the erection of Houses

for Wolverhampton tenants 548 houses have been handed over for Wolverhampton applicants and the District Council have fulfilled their obligation under the Joint Overspill Agreement.

The number of Council Houses now owned by the Council is approximately 1,710 and 329 houses are in course of erection.

WATER

A scheme has been prepared for the provision of water mains at the higher levels of Four Ashes and Six Ashes in the Parishes of Bobbington and Envile, at a total estimated cost of £15,014. The scheme involves the laying of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of 4" and 3" dia. spun iron mains in the Four Ashes area and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of 3" dia. mains in the Six Ashes Road. These mains are to be connected up to the mains now being laid by the Bridgnorth R.D.C. The scheme is ready to forward to the Ministry for consideration.

Section C (II)

WATER

The Public Health Department has itself maintained an intensive series of bacteriological tests on the water supplies of the District. In addition the Water Undertakings have taken their own tests.

The water supply of the district, apart from small wells, is mainly provided by the following four water undertakings:—

- (a) Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking, which supplies the Parishes of Codsall, Wrottesley, Wrottesley (Detached), Pattingham, Lower Penn and part of Wombourn.
- (b) Bilston Corporation Water Undertaking, which supplies the parishes of Trysull, Seisdon, Himley, Swindon and part of Wombourn.
- (c) South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, which supplies Kinver, Enville and Bobbington.
- (d) City of Birmingham Water Department, which supplies the Iverley portion of Kinver.

I am indebted to the respective Water Engineers of the above mentioned Water Authorities for the following reports:—

(a) **Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking**

- (1) The water supplied to the parishes concerned in your Rural District has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.
- (2) The following is a summary of the results of bacteriological examinations of water going into distribution:

	Number of Samples	Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes per 100 ml.			
		0	1-2	3-10	Over 10
Total number of Bacteriological examination taken	847	837	9	1	0
Percentage of samples taken ..		98.8	1.1	0.1	0

Of these 847 samples taken by the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking in the year, 98.8% were "highly satisfactory". Subsequent to treatment at the works, where necessary, there has been no known contamination of the supply. Including also water which was tested before and during treatment a total of 1,477 water samples were sent for bacteriological examination by the W.C.W.U.

- (3) There is no evidence of plumbo-solvent action by the water.
- (4) The water was treated by the W.C.W.U. at three of its four sources of supply.

Chemical analyses were also made of the eight different sources of supply and the results were satisfactory.

(b) Bilston Corporation Water Undertaking

- (1) The water supply of the area has been satisfactory (a) in quantity (b) in quality.
- (2) Eighteen samples for bacteriological tests and five samples for chemical analysis were sent for testing by Bilston Corporation Water Undertaking. Two of the bacteriological tests were taken during mechanical alterations to the plant and showed moderate contamination with non-faecal coli.
- (3) The water supplied does not have plumbo-solvent action.
- (4) Chlorination is practised at the two sources of supply.

(c) South Staffordshire Waterworks Company

- (1) The supply to those parts of the Rural District which are served by the South Staffs. Waterworks Co. has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. It comes from Ashwood and Kinver Pumping Stations.

(2)	Number of samples taken	Number entirely free from coliform bacteria
Ashwood raw water ..	106	105
Ashwood chlorinated water ..	105	were "highly satisfactory"
Kinver chlorinated water ..	103	105
Kinver Reservoir	102	were "highly satisfactory"
		103
		100
		were "highly satisfactory"

Chlorination is practised as a precautionary measure at both of the supplying stations. 26 samples from Ashwood Pumping Station and 99 from Kinver Pumping Station were examined chemically.

- (3) The supplying stations are not liable to plumbo solvency.

(4) In the case of possible contamination in the event of burst mains, cleaning out reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination is performed. Special apparatus and staff are available for this work. New mains are not brought into use until a sample of water from them is found to be satisfactory.

(d) **City of Birmingham Water Department**

This water supplies about 50 houses in Iverley.

(1) The water supply of the area and its several parts has been satisfactory in quantity.

(2) Bacteriological examinations have been made by Birmingham of the water at Elan Aqueduct at Ludlow. Nineteen samples out of 23 were "highly satisfactory", *i.e.*, 82% highly satisfactory at Ludlow. The Public Health Department of Seisdon Rural District took samples of this water periodically at Iverley, and in August, 1954, the bacteriological tests began to show poor and dangerous results. Emergency boiling was recommended to the local residents and a succession of bacteriological tests were taken. During the year our Public Health Department took 45 bacteriological samples and one chemical sample at Iverley. Construction of a permanent chlorinating point was undertaken by Mr. Bagley at a situation which is inside the Seisdon boundary and this is now in regular operation. At the time of writing the addition by ourselves of chlorine to the strength of 0.25 parts per million is producing a water which is one hundred per cent "highly satisfactory".

[The Ministry of Health classify drinking water into:

Class One	..	Highly Satisfactory
Class Two	..	Satisfactory
Class Three	..	Suspicious
Class Four	..	Unsatisfactory

It is contemplated increasing the chlorination to 0.5 parts per million for the July, August, September period of the year.

(3) The raw Elan water has a light plumbo-solvent action which is neutralised with hydrated lime before entering the Aqueduct.

(e) Further to the above mentioned 4 undertakings there are the private estates of **Patshull Hall**. This has two sources of supply, being land springs, within its own grounds. In June, 1953, there was found to be faecal coli and coliform bacteria in the water supply of the Burnhill Village School which obtained its water supply from the Patshull Estate. Further to my

report of 1953 a series of bacteriological and chemical tests were continued by the Seisdon P.H. Department in 1954. The chlorinating apparatus is in being, and replenished each day on Source (H). Source (H) is now giving "highly satisfactory" results at its distribution points, but in its collection ground it remains subject to road and field contamination. Source (M) is giving satisfactory results at its collection point, and has been re-introduced into the system although it is not yet being chlorinated. Source (H) supplies water for an Orthopaedic Convalescent Ward of Wolverhampton Royal Infirmary situated within Patshull Hall, and having about 100 patients and nursing staff. Sources (H) and (M) after mixing, supply outlying farms and half of Burnhill Green Village. Supervision and testing is being maintained. Tests at houses and farms have been in most cases "satisfactory". The quantity of water proved inadequate without the subsequent addition of source (M). Chemical tests were satisfactory.

In co-operation with the Surveyor for Patshull Estates (Mr. Carter Jonas), Mr. McMillan of W.C.W.U., Mr. Bagley and Mr. Tarplee, a plan of supply of mains water from W.C. W.U. has been prepared and the question of financial grants is at present being investigated.

(f) Burnhill Green Village Borehole

This is maintained by Seisdon Rural District Council. It supplies the western half of Burnhill Green Village. Twenty four samples of water were taken for bacteriological testing in 1954, and all were "highly satisfactory". Chlorination is by a Wallace and Tiernan apparatus which is replenished every one to two weeks.

(g) Enville

An area of approximately four square miles in the western portion of Enville Parish is still entirely without a mains pure water supply. It awaits an extension of the Bridgnorth R.D.C. Water Scheme.

(h) Enville

An area North East of the Bridgnorth—Enville Road is likewise depending on wells, having contaminated water and inadequate summer quantities of water. It is being considered for a minor extension of supply from South Staffs. Water Undertaking.

(i) Hotel

A hotel with a grossly contaminated water supply was reported on during the year, and representations made. The result was that it was extensively reconstructed, and it now enjoys a first class pure mains water supply.

Section D.

HOUSING

The 200 houses in the Rural District, which were considered to be in Category 5, (fit for demolition), in 1953-1954, are gradually being reduced in number. This is being effected by actual Demolition Orders, or by the owner improving a house with the financial aid of an "Improvements Grant", or (in a very satisfactory way) by converting two of these adjacent Category 5 houses into one house and also putting in "Improvement" into the resulting single house. This last method has the advantage from the Rural District's point of view that in one deed it crosses two of the Category 5 houses off our list and puts one house firmly in the Category 2 or 3 class. It is anticipated that within five years all the Category 5 houses will be eliminated from the Rural District. Demolition Orders having been made by the Rural District Council, the Orders are held in suspense until the occupying family have been rehoused.

A special case exists in the case of some 1939-1945 ex-Army and R.A.F. Huts at Wrottesley Park. These are all in effect Category 5, and I believe that special permission and allocation by the Ministry to build an equal number of houses to replace these huts would be fully justified, (the replacements need not be built on the same site). The total number of huts is 149.

One sometimes comes across borderline cases of Category 4 or 5 houses which one feels might be permitted to remain, on condition the Rural District Council were given powers to specify that such houses should only be occupied by people in the age group 50 or over, and not on any account to be occupied by families with children.

Your Housing Officer, Mr. W. Badger, has furnished me with the following information:—

No. of dwellings completed during 1954

1. Seisdon Overspill Houses ..	347
2. Seisdon Council Houses ..	218
TOTAL ..	565

Number of families housed in converted Army Hut Dwellings at 31st December, 1954—

British	60
D.P. (Polish, etc.) ..	99
TOTAL ..	159

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk Supplies

In October, 1954, Seisdon Rural District became a designated district in which only designated milk may be sold, *i.e.*, Pasteurised, Sterilized, and T.T. Milk.

In 1953, of "Ungraded Milk" samples collected in Seisdon Rural District Council's area, 7 out of 44 failed to pass a "*Cleanliness*" *Test*, giving a percentage of 15.9% "unsatisfactory".

Also in 1953, 2 samples out of 42 samples of ungraded milk were found to contain *tuberculosis bacteria*—equal to 4.8 %positive.

2. Slaughterhouses

During 1954 four Slaughterhouses were licenced and re-opened at sites of previous 1939 Slaughterhouses. Two of these are to serve the use of a single shop in each case. The third in the centre of Kinver is the subject of a Ministry Enquiry at the present time.

The fourth slaughterhouse is sited at a farmhouse at Great Moor, Pattingham and is well removed from any other buildings, shops or schools. It is not likely to cause a nuisance to anyone, has been extensively modernized, is being still further improved and in all represents a very praiseworthy effort to supply the essential food needs of the population. It is in a site where no danger to the Public Health should occur, and in my opinion, represents a pattern for future siting and building of slaughterhouses.

Since inspection of meat at these slaughterhouses was resumed, Mr. Robinson has spent approximately 60% of his time on meat inspection.

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever

19 cases were notified, as against 29 last year. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough

		<i>Incidence</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1951—	131 cases	.. ..
1952—	159 „	.. .. 7.09 per 1,000	1
1953—	78 „	.. .. 3.3 „ „	0
1954—	120 „	.. .. 4.9 „ „	0

Immunisation against Whooping Cough is available at Infant Welfare Clinics throughout the Rural District, and also available at the General Practitioners' surgeries.

A stock of Whooping Cough vaccine is held at the Council Offices for distribution.

Measles

	<i>Incidence</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
110 cases notified in 1952	0
423 cases notified in 1953	0
12 cases notified in 1954	0

Diphtheria

No case of Diphtheria occurred in the year. Immunisation against Diphtheria is available at Clinics throughout the Rural District, and also at the surgery of the General Practitioners.

Statistics of Immunisation are collected and held at the Office of the Area Medical Officer at Brierley Hill.

In Seisdon Rural District Council, figures were as follows:—

		1953	1954
Primary	Age 0- 4+ years	169 children immunised	226
Immunisations	Age 5-14 years	65 children immunised	72
Reinforcing	Age 0- 4+ years	11 children immunised	—
Immunisations	Age 5-14 years	208 children immunised	455
	TOTAL	453 children immunised	753

On the basis of the Chief Medical Officer's Report for 1953 (and applied to 1954 and a mid-year population of 24,500):—

At 77 per thousand, in age-group 0 – 5

Seisdon Rural District has 1,890 children

At 82 per thousand, in age-group 5-10

Seisdon Rural District has 2,010 children

At 65 per thousand, in age-group 10-15

Seisdon Rural District has 1,600 children

In age-group 0-15 . . . Seisdon Rural District has 5,500 children

On the basis of the report of the Medical Officer of Health for Staffordshire, 1953:—

If Staffordshire has 13,200 children less than 1 year old

Then Seisdon Rural District has 368 children less than 1 year old

Then Seisdon Rural District has 1,930 children less than 5 years old (approx.)

Assuming 197 children (average of 169 and 226) are immunised each year, in the age-group 0-5 years, we get **51%** immunised in Seisdon Rural District.

According to the 1951 census returns there were 1,882 children in age-group 0-5 years in Seisdon Rural District. In view of the rapid development in the Rural District in the last five years, it is probable that 1,930 is the minimal figure for the numbers in the age-group 0-5 years.

Erysipelas

1953 . . . 2 cases.

1954 . . . 3 cases.

Influenza

Two infants of ages 2 months and 3 months old respectively, died in the month of November, 1954, each after an illness of very rapid progress. At a Coroner's inquest findings of "Bronchiolitis and Early Broncho Pneumonia" were returned. These events coincided with the onset of a mild influenza type B outbreak in England and Wales, and it is known that similar cases of rapid progress and similar effects occurred in nearby Districts. It appears to be a fair presumption that the two infants died of an Influenza type B infection with secondary Broncho Pneumonia.

Infective Hepatitis

Eleven cases of Infective Hepatitis (infective jaundice) occurred in the early months of 1954 and ten of these cases were in the two villages of Pattingham (6 cases) and Smestow (4 cases). Most of the Smestow cases occurred in January and most of the Pattingham cases occurred in May.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis)

Cases have occurred as follows:—

		Age			
1. In Seisdon Village		9	1st Sept., 1954	Non-paralytic	Confirmed
2. In Codsall	..	13	17th Dec., 1954	Paralytic	Not Confirmed
3. In Codsall	..	1-6/12	7th Jan., 1955	Paralytic	Confirmed

The three cases were all admitted to Hospital.

Para-Typhoid—Contacts

Three persons came home in September, 1954, from a holiday at an English Seaside Resort, having been close contacts of a case of Para-typhoid Fever at their Hotel. Two of these persons worked on Seisdon farms. By courtesy of Dr. Phease of the Public Health Laboratory at Stafford they were given immediate blood tests and clearances within five days.

Tins of Infected Cream—Typhoid

These tins were Irish in origin, and tins sampled in Birmingham (February, 1954) were found to contain in a few cases, some typhoid bacilli. Previously in October, 1953, the Senior Sanitary Inspector (Seisdon) had already condemned 91 of these tins, and in February, 1954, two more of the tins were seized in our Rural District and condemned.

Food Poisoning

Three cases of Food Poisoning occurred in a family living in Swindon village in October, 1954. Two of these cases quickly cleared up. The third case, (a child of 8 months old at the onset of its illness), is symptom free and is still returning positive results on testing six months later (Salmonella Newport Infection).

Tetanus

One death from Tetanus occurred in a child aged 10 years, following an accident.

Cases admitted to Hospital

The total number of cases admitted to Hospital for Infectious Disease was 5.

Moxley Hospital:	{	Ac. Ant. Poliomyelitis	1
		Scarlet Fever ..	1
		Whooping Cough ..	2
Wolverhampton Borough Hospital:		Ac. Ant. Poliomyelitis	1

Swabs and Specimens submitted to the Public Health Laboratory :

Nose and Throat	..	..	..	..	..	10
Sputa	..	..	..	..	..	113
Blood	..	..	..	..	..	4
Faeces	..	..	..	..	..	18
Urine	..	..	..	..	..	1

The great majority of the sputa were submitted by the Tuberculosis Officer.

General Measures

School notifications of infectious disease are carefully scrutinised and made prompt use of for the purpose of guidance and location.

Terminal disinfection of premises and articles by means of formaldehyde lamps and disinfectant fluids is carried out in necessary cases.

Section G.

TUBERCULOSIS

The Medical Officer of Health visits all cases where environmental home conditions are poor, and investigation and advice as appropriate is given. Appreciation is here recorded of the co-operation and help given by the Housing Committee of Seisdon Rural District Council in giving priority to the housing recommendations of the M.O.H. in cases of Tuberculosis.

Mass X-ray of the secondary schools is arranged by the County M.O.H. in co-operation with the Chest Physicians. Mass X-ray is available (without previous appointment) at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton every Monday morning at 9.30 a.m. and at Priory Road, Dudley on certain Friday afternoons.

Respiratory Tuberculosis

The average annual case fatality (per 100 new cases occurring):

In 1916-1920 in England and Wales was	60.2
In 1936-1940	52.8
In 1941-1945	43.4
In 1952	19.4
In 1954 .. In Seisdon was	12.5

Total Number of Cases on Register

	1952	At 31/12/1953	At 31/12/1954
Pulmonary—Male ..	63	67	
Pulmonary—Female ..	37	49	
Non-Pulmonary—Male ..	13	11	
Non-Pulmonary—Female ..	14	13	
TOTAL ..	127	140	
Number for 1,000 population (Seisdon)		5.4	5.74
Average for Staffs. C.C. ..	9.6	9.9	
Number of Deaths of Seisdon Resident ..	2	3	1

Localisation of Tuberculosis in New Cases Notified in 1954

		Males	Females	Total
Lungs	4	4	8	
Hip Joint	-	1	1	
	—	—	—	—
	4	5	9	
	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES						TRANSFERS INTO R.D.C.						DEATHS			
	Pulmonary			Non-pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M	M	F	M	F	M	F	
0—5 years ..																
5—10									1							
10—15									1							
15—20	1	1														
20—25			1													
25—30			1													
30—35				1												
35—40			2	1												
40—45			1													
45—50																
50—55										1						
55—60																
65 years and over																
TOTALS FOR 1954	4		4				—		1	3	13	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS FOR 1952	M and F		M and F				M and F		M and F	M and F	M and F		M and F		M and F	
TOTALS FOR 1953	19		15				1		0	8	0		0		0	
TOTALS FOR 1954	15		8				0		0	3	0		1		1	

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the
YEAR 1954

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Seisdon Rural District Council:*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my fourteenth Annual Report, that for the year 1954, upon the work carried out by my Department.

I should like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and consideration in the carrying out of my duties, to Dr. Kennedy and other Officials of the Council for their co-operation, and to Mr. Robinson and Mr. Nally for their unfailing and willing assistance at all times.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. V. R. LEE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

June, 1955.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Total Inspections	5,080
Number of complaints received	741
Preliminary Notices served	128
Statutory Notices served	22
Preliminary Notices complied	121
Statutory Notices complied	20

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS MADE

Housing

Houses inspected—Primary	218
—Re-Inspections	579
Overcrowding	6
Survey	240

Factories

Factories—Mechanical Power	20
—No Mechanical Power	17

Meat and Food Inspections

Meat and Food Inspections	354
Bakehouses	14
Food Premises	414
Dairies	11
Shops—Meat	82
—Fish	21
—General	237
Sampling—Water	169
—Ice Cream	62

Other Routine Visits of Inspection

Accumulations	47
Camping Grounds	61
Drainage	289
Infectious Diseases	23
Miscellaneous	35
Petroleum	52
Piggeries	6
Rats and Mice (Destruction and other Pest Control)	821
Refuse Receptacles	495
Sampling	231
Smoke	99
Tents, Vans, Sheds	273
Verminous Premises	7
Farms	4
Water Supply	192

COMPLAINTS

Seven hundred and forty one complaints were received by the Department during the year. They concern the following:—

Housing defects ..	136	Refuse Collection ..	142
Rats and Mice ..	185	Other Pests ..	28
Drainage Defects ..	219	Miscellaneous ..	31

Only the complaints relating to Housing Defects required the service of Notices; the remainder were remedied by one or other of the services employed or provided by the Council.

HOUSING

138 notices were served during the year, 122 preliminary notices and 16 statutory notices. These refer to repair notices and do not include the 44 notices served in connection with the consideration of houses suitable for demolition.

The houses were sited, by parishes, as follows:—

Codsall	12	Pattingham	14
Envile	2	Seisdon and Trysull	3
Himley	3	Swindon	10
Kinver	25	Wombourn	44
Lower Penn	3	Wrottesley	10

These notices refer to the Housing and Public Health defects enumerated on page 33.

As noted in an earlier part of the Report 141 notices were complied with during the year (121 preliminary, 20 statutory). 125 of these concerned the housing, etc., repairs noted on page 34.

The premises involved were sited as follows (preliminary notices):—

Codsall	9	Pattingham	16
Envile	2	Seisdon and Trysull	4
Himley	6	Swindon	9
Kinver	23	Wombourn	41
Lower Penn	4	Wrottesley	14

The balance of 16 notices complied referred to Moveable Dwellings, Animals Kept, etc.

DEFECTS—INTERNAL

Walls, damp, defective, perished plaster	24
Ceilings, defective and perished plaster	21
Windows, defective frames, sashes, casements	4
Doors, defective woodwork, frames	6
Floors, defective, dangerous	6
Stairs, defective treads or risers, no handrail	4
Fireplaces, defective or dilapidated	6
Water supply, burst pipes	4
Sinks, defective waste-pipes	—
Washing accommodation defective	2
Dampness	11
No foodstore	—
Re-decoration required	4

DEFECTS—EXTERNAL

Walls, defective, perished jointing, brickwork decayed	5
Defective flashings and verges	3
Defective roofs	15
Defective chimneys	—
Defective guttering	10
Defective external woodwork	—
Defective drainage	6
Defective w.c. pedestals	5
Defective closets	14
Defective pans	3
Privy midden	2
Dustbins defective	98

REPAIRS—INTERNAL

Walls, replastered or pointed	..	..	..	23
Ceilings repaired, replastered	..	..	..	21
Windows repaired or provided	..	..	..	9
Doors, renewed or repaired	..	..	..	5
Floors repaired	..	..	..	6
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	..	..	..	7
Water supply, burst pipes	..	..	..	4
Sinks, etc., provided or repaired	..	..	..	—
Stairs repaired, handrails provided	..	..	..	3
Washing accommodation repaired or provided	..			1
Foodstores provided	..	..	..	—
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	9
Redecoration	..	..	..	8

REPAIRS—EXTERNAL

Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	19
Chimney stacks repaired	..	..	..	..	2
Gutters repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	10
Walls repaired, repointed, etc.	..	..	..	..	8
Water closets provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	23
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	95
Drainage defects	..	..	..	..	8
Privy middens abolished	..	..	..	..	4

Housing Act, 1936, Section II

During the year our efforts continued to deal with houses incapable of repair at a reasonable expense.

29 houses were dealt with as follows:—

14 demolition orders were made and 15 undertakings accepted that the houses would not be relet until made fit and the undertakings cancelled.

It is indicative of the improvement in the Housing situation that we are now in a position to deal with more and more houses each year. In 1951, 6 houses; 1952, 6 houses; 1953, 16 houses; 1954, 29 houses, and in 1955 to mid year, 24 houses.

The properties concerned were sited in the following parishes:—

Kinver	11	Trysull	4
Lower Penn	2	Wombourn	1
Pattingham	11		

The addresses, in the order in which they were dealt with:—

- Wooden Shed, Anchor Inn, Kinver
- Caravan, Meadow View, Seisdon
- House, Hall End Lane, Pattingham (Walters)
- 3 houses, Clive Road, Pattingham
- Pamela Bungalow, Brockleys Walk, Kinver
- Old New Inns, School Road, Wombourn
- 3 Cottages, The Green, Trysull
- 80, 81 and 82, Greensforge, Kinver
- “The Warren”, Prestwood Road, Stourton
- “Woodland View”, Bridgnorth Road, Stourton
- 1 and 2, Concrete Cottages, Lower Penn
- 1 and 2, Marlbrook Cottages, Pattingham
- 100, High Street, Kinver
- The Hut, Gardenfields, Kinver
- 1, Forest Cottage, Kinver
- 13, High Street, Kinver
- 1-5, High Street, Pattingham

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

A total of 354 visits were made in connection with the inspection of meat and other foods.

The following items were, after inspection, found to be unsound, unwholesome or unfit for human consumption:

- 142 tins of corned beef
- 5 tins of cooked ham
- 11 lbs. of currants
- 122 lbs. of sultanas
- 25 lbs. of raisins.

Meat Inspection

Since the de-rationing of meat in July, 1954, four private Slaughterhouses have been licenced by Seisdon Rural District Council. These are situated in the Parishes of Codsall, Kinver, Pattingham and Wrottesley. With the exception of the Slaughterhouse at Pattingham, the other three Slaughterhouses only provide slaughtering facilities for their own particular butchers' shops.

With regard to the Pattingham Slaughterhouse, which is in daily use, a large amount of slaughtering takes place, as this establishment supplies meat to several retailing butchers' shops in the Wolverhampton area. This Slaughterhouse was connected to the main water supply during the month of October, 1954, and, as a result of this, the standard of cleanliness has greatly improved since a continual flow of water is now available. A new sewage disposal plant is now being installed.

All animals slaughtered are subject to inspection and it will be noted that 2,401 lbs. of meat was destroyed as being unfit for human consumption. It was noticed that the percentage of Tuberculosis in the better quality cattle was very small but it would appear that as long as aged cows are being slaughtered the percentage of Tuberculosis will remain high. There were no cases of Anthrax or Swine Fever.

The work involved in meat inspection has created an added burden for the Public Health Department, since most weeks between 15-20 hours are now being spent on this important Public Health work, it also being frequently necessary to inspect meat in the evenings and Sundays.

The following table illustrates the work done:—

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED—5th July, 1954—31st December, 1954

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	695	226	3,246	488
Number Inspected	695	226	3,246	488
All diseases except Tuberculosis:				
Carcasses condemned	—	2	9	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	356	56
Percentage of number affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	23%	—	11%	11.5%
Tuberculosis Only:				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	27
Percentage of the number inspected with Tuberculosis	14%	—	—	6%
The principal organs condemned were as follows	164 livers 47 lungs	—	510 livers 358 lungs	30 livers 40 lungs

ICE CREAM

During the year under review 183 visits were paid to the 60 premises then storing ice cream for sale.

At the time of visit temperature tests were frequently carried out to ensure that the temperature of the refrigerator was being kept within the requirements of the Ice Cream Regulations (*i.e.*, that the product must be kept at a temperature below 28° Fah.). In every case conditions were satisfactory.

45 samples were taken for bacteriological examination. Results were as follows:

GRADES				Total
1	2	3	4	
39	3	3	—	45

Analysed according to manufacturers:

Manufacturer	No. of Retailers selling in this area	Grade				Total
		1	2	3	4	
“A”	28	16	3	3	—	22
“B”	20	16	—	—	—	16
“C”	5	3	—	—	—	3
“D”	4	3	—	—	—	3
“E”	3	1	—	—	—	1
	60	39	3	3	—	45

The Laboratory suggestions as to the interpretation of results are given below:

“Owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice cream it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results of any single sample. Judgment should be based rather on a series of samples. It is suggested that over a six-monthly period 50% of a vendor's samples

should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20% into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4".

In the light of the above statement it will be clear that the season's work shews a marked improvement over previous years:

Year	Grades				Total	No. of Premises
	1	2	3	4		
1951	50	23	5	6	84	44
1952	59	22	5	12	98	60
1953	32	7	2	—	41	53
1954	39	3	3	—	45	60

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN IN THE

RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1954

	No. of Samples	Phenol-pthalein Test		Phos-phatase Test		Turbidity Test		Methy-lene Blue Test		Tubercle-bacilli Test	
		Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pass	Fail	Pos.	Neg.
Tuberculin Tested ..	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	1	—	9
T.T. Certified ..	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	2	—	7
T.T. Pasteurised ..	45	—	45	—	45	—	—	45	—	—	—
Pasteurised ..	55	—	51	—	51	—	—	51	—	—	4
Sterilised ..	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	—	—	—
Accredited ..	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	11
Undesignated ..	53	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	3	—	31

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

We are indebted to the County Public Health Department for the following information regarding samples taken for examination during 1954.

Milk

Milk Pasteurised	..	..	21
Milk Sterilised	..	..	21
Milk	..	..	5
Milk T.T. Pasteurised	..	..	21
Milk T.T. ..	..	..	9
Milk T.T. Certified	..	..	2
Milk T.T. Channel Island	..	..	5
			—
Total	..	..	84 <i>All Genuine.</i>
			—

General Foods

Number of samples submitted	..	..	62
Number of samples genuine	..	..	59
Number of samples adulterated	..	..	3

Classification of General Foods

Pork Savoury Crunch	Cocoa
Pork Sausage (cont. preservative) (4 samples)	Orange Juice
Beef Sausage (cont. preservative) (2 samples)	Self Raising Flour
Steak and Kidney Pie	Scotch Marmalade FFS
Isinglass	All Spice
Tea	Multivite
Pea Soup with Smoked Ham	Blackcurrant Puree
Baking Powder	Lime Drops
Passion Fruit Preserve	Grapefruit Drops
Marmalade	Pimento
Sweetened Sponge Mixture	Orange Juice (2 samples)
White Pepper (2 samples)	Lemon Curd
Mint Jelly	Butter Crunch
Tripe and Onions	Peeled Plum Tomatoes
Irish Beef Stew	Viennese Coffee
Beef and Gravy	Ground Almonds
Semolina	Steak and Onions
Minced Meat Loaf	Brazil Butters
	Custard Powder
	Lime Juice Cordial

Aniseed Balls	Beef and Vegetable Soup
Tapioca	Polony
Garden Peas	Ginger Cordial
Fancy Crabmeat	Milk Setting Jelly Crystals
Lemonade Crystals	Mincemeat
Oil of Peppermint Tablets B.P.	Meat Soup
Small Sago	Mussels in Pure Vinegar
Plum Jam	
Salad Cream	
Coffee	
Salmon Spread	

Particulars of Adulterated Samples

- (1) Pork Savoury Crunch—Formal—9% of added salt. The amount of free fatty acid present in this food is undesirably high.
Taken up with manufacturer.
- (2) Baking Powder—Formal—32.6% deficient of its proper proportion of Carbon-Dioxide.
Old Stock. Withdrawn from Sale.
- (3) Pork Sausage—Formal—300 parts per million Sulphite Preservative not declared.
Notice now exhibited.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During the year under review 61 visits were made to Camping Grounds and 273 to individual moveable dwellings.

I have continued the policy whereby all applications for Public Health Act Licences are referred, first, to the Surveyor's Department to obtain Planning Approval. This, it will be appreciated, has resulted in far fewer applications coming before the Public Health Committee. When all services are available it may be difficult to refuse a Licence on Public Health grounds, whereas, for Planning reasons, it may be quite undesirable to have a caravan, or Camping Ground, on a particular site.

I am glad to report that we had little trouble last year from the nomadic individual; only four instances were noted where the "travellers" appeared to be likely to stay more than one or two nights. These were cautioned and moved on reasonably promptly.

PEST CONTROL

The following table shows the work carried out by the Council's part-time Ratcatcher:

Type of Premises	No. of visits	Estimated kill	Bodies found
Business ..	24	90	40
Private ..	468	904	367
Council ..	286	862	330
TOTAL ..	778	1,856	737

The Council properties concerned are the five sewage works and three tips in operation during the year. These are all treated at regular intervals, emphasis being, of course, on keeping the refuse tips as clear as possible. Although, on occasions, infestations shewed signs of developing, the position never became serious and prompt action resulted in the situation being reduced to minor proportions. We are fortunate that our largest tip (Wombourn) is considerably removed from centres of human habitation; paradoxically, this tip has caused us less concern than the others. Undoubtedly the prompt and efficient covering over refuse with soil helps the rodent operative in revealing early signs of disturbance.

As, for many years now, no infestations have been found in the Council's sewers, we are allowed to dispense with baiting and treatment of all the sewers in the area—10% of the manholes being lifted and bait deposited. This work was carried out last year in the early autumn and gave completely negative results. This is very satisfactory as, apart from shewing the efficiency of the overground work in reducing the rat population, the work involved in treating some seven or eight hundred manholes would be a task of some magnitude.

No problems have arisen at the refuse tips in relation to crickets; the fly situation has never developed seriously since our tips are not near occupied dwellings and prompt coverage does have an effect in reducing the number of flies. Tip dressing has been carried out on an experimental scale with satisfactory results.

Your operative has dealt with a few infestations of moles and, at the appropriate season, with wasps nests.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

For the benefit of the statistician the following table is of interest:

Number of cesspools emptied	..	..	1,970
Number of dustbins emptied	..	..	255,256
Number of pans emptied	..	..	43,493
Number of loads (all materials)	..	..	7,497

Salvage

Waste paper was collected to the amount of $18\frac{1}{4}$ tons, producing a sum of £124.

Scrap metal and rags to a total of $9\frac{1}{2}$ tons produced £60.

General

Considerable difficulties still exist in obtaining suitable workmen for the job; advertisements in the local press and application to the Ministry of Labour and National Service generally produced negative results. In fact, it has been found more successful to insert a small poster in the office window.

Sickness has caused some anxiety. During the year 409 man-days were lost due to sickness of varying kind; 31 days were lost due to injury, and 378 to actual illness—the latter in part consisting of such occupational risks as bronchitis, influenza, asthma, etc.

The organisation of the Cleansing Service, as forecast in the last report, was reviewed during the year and with the advent of the Council's first Dennis Diesel Paxit, considerable alterations were made to the various rounds. Labour difficulties and increase in the number of new houses has already tended to negative the advances made a year ago and further re-organisation is planned for when the Council's second Paxit is delivered.

The remarks made in the last report with reference to the new bin scheme have proved a reliable forecast and the scheme has, in fact, enabled us to replace worn out bins immediately and with no legal delays such as occurred in the past. 169 bins were delivered to properties, under the bin scheme.

In addition, during the year under review 301 dustbins and 62 pans were supplied to various properties in the area without the service of notice.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

This table is enclosed by request of the Ministry of Labour and National Service to indicate to Medical Officers of Health the prescribed particulars which are required by Section 128 (3) to be furnished in their annual reports with respect to matters under Part I and Part VIII of the Acts which are administered by the District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SEISDON IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	No. of		Occupiers prosecuted
		In- spec- tions	Written Notices	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	17	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies (2) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement Order), 1938 ..	21	20	—	—
(b) others	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding out workers)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	28	37	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ..						
Overcrowding (S.2.) ..						
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ..						
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) ..						
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ..						
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) ..						
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	4	—	2	—	
(c) not separate sexes ..						
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)						
TOTAL ..	2	4	—	2	—	

